

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

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FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ROME EC BRUSSELS FROM PARIS
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, TGEN

SUBJECT: URANIUM ENRICHMENT: AEC TELEGRAM TO WYART

REF: A. STATE 227510 B. PARIS

SUMMARY: HIGH OFFICIAL IN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT HAS ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF AEC TELEGRAM TO PIERRE WYART (REF A). HE NOTED CABLE WITH GREAT INTEREST AND SAID GOF COULD BE EXPECTED TO REPLY SOON. EMBASSY REQUESTS CLARIFICATION SOONEST. END SUMMARY.

1. CHIEF NUCLEAR ENERGY PLANNER FOR MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL
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AND SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT CALLED IN SCIATT AND QUAI REPRE-

SENTATIVE FOR CLARIFICATION OF TELEGRAM SENT BY AEC TO PIERRE WYART, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN PRODUCERS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY (REF A) CALLED HERE THE WYART GROUP. (WYART IS ALSO DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION FOR STATE-OWNED ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE) ESSENTIALLY HE WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER TELEGRAM REPRESENTED OFFICIAL USG COMMUNICATION OR SIMPLY THAT OF PAUL LOCHAK. HE WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT, BUT THAT EMBASSY HAD NO NEW INFORMATION TO ADD. SCIATT NOTED THAT U.S. HAD NEVER WITHDRAWN OFFER OF COOPERATION IN PRESIDENTS STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 25, 1971.

2. GIRARD SAID THAT GOF COULD NOT YET RESPOND OFFICIALLY TO AEC TELEGRAM, BUT CERTAINLY WOULD DO SO IN NEAR FUTURE, PROBABLY AFTER NOVEMBER 22 INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING AT ELYSEE (REF B). TELEGRAM WAS "NOTED WITH GREAT INTEREST." GIRARD POINTED OUT THAT SHORT TIME BETWEEN NOW AND DECEMBER 31, 1973 DEADLINE POSES DIFFICULTIES IN DEALING WITH SUCH AN IMPORTANT COMPLICATED ISSUE.

3. GIRARD WAS PUZZLED AT USAGE OF WORD "YOU" IN PHRASE "IF THE EXPLORATORY DISCUSSION COVERED INTER ALIA SUITABLE TERMS AND CONDITIONS WHICH YOU CONTEMPLATE INITIATING." HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS NOT THE WYART GROUP WHICH IS CONSIDERING THE CONSTRUCTION OF GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT BUT EURODIF. IT WAS CERTAINLY A MATTER HE STRESSED, FOR GOVERNMENTAL INVOLVEMENT, AS TELEGRAM INDICATED. GIRARD ADDED THAT LOCHAK WAS NOT OFFICIALLY CONSULTANT FOR WYART GROUP. SCIATT SAID HE WOULD TRY TO OBTAIN FURTHER CLARIFICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GIRARD CLOSED CONVERSATION BY MENTIONING THAT HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING TELEGRAM WITH CEA ADMINISTRATOR ANDRE GIRAUD THIS AFTERNOON.

4. COMMENT: IT IS OBVIOUS THAT FRENCH CONSIDER AEC TELEGRAM AS OFFICIAL USG OPENING TOWARD POSSIBLE US COOPERATION IN DEVELOPING EURODIF PLANT. WE WISH TO POINT OUT THAT THIS IS A MATTER TO WHICH TO GOF ATTACHES THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE AND WHICH IS BEING DEALT WITH AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF THE GOVERNMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THERE BE NO CONFUSION IN THE MINDS OF FRENCH AS TO USG INTENTIONS, PARTICULARLY IN REFERENCE TO WHOM THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AEC OVERTURE IS DIRECTED, AND WE REQUEST URGENT CLARIFICATION IN ORDER ANSWER GOF QUESTIONS. IRWIN UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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